



Boston Connects, Incorporated
Boston Empowerment Zone
2201 Washington Street
Roxbury, MA. 02119

Board Minutes
October 26, 2004

Members Present: George Greenidge, *President*, Joelee Baker-Bey, Joan Wallace Benjamin, Julia Flashner, Michael Glavin, Betty Greene, Mark Maloney, Larry Mayes, and Frederick Umeh

Members Absent: Gloria Coney, Michael Foley, Robert Kinney, Elizabeth Miranda, Rev. Roland McCall, Valerie Pruitt, Jayne Talbot, Roberta Williams

BCI Staff: Shirley Carrington, Sherry O'Brien

EDIC Staff: Ken Barnes, Michelle Trousil

Guests: Don Goldberg, Norma Murphy, Perry Smith, of Executive Service Corps and Cheryl Snyder

Meeting called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Welcome and Introductions were made.

1. Approval of Minutes

The minutes were tabled due to the lack of a quorum.

2. Board President Report:

Mr. Greenidge distributed packages to members that contained By-laws and an updated listing of Board members and their contact information.

Mr. Greenidge announced that after the Acting Executive Director's report, the Board would meet in an Executive Session to discuss the findings and suggested action steps from the Executive Service Corps as well as the Executive Director search.

He suggested that the present BCI committee structure needed to be revisited to see if it is feasible to consolidate some of the committee. This will be discussed at a later date.

3. Acting Executive Directors Report:

Ms. Carrington stated that BCI programs were running smoothly and monitoring visits by JCS and BCI staff for contract compliance are on-going. She announced that she had visited ABCD's Job Readiness in Rehabilitation Program where she met with several participants who spoke very highly about the value of the trainign they had received.

She also reported that the Career Centers training program was performing well. To date 43 zone residents have been trained with 76% placed in training related



Thomas M. Menino, Mayor
City of Boston

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jobs.

Responses to the Child Care RFP are in and funding recommendations will be presented at the November Board meeting.

The Fatherhood RFP is due on November 12, 2004. Funding Recommendations will be made at the December Board meeting.

The EZ Organization Assessment Training program brochure which was included in the Board packages will be mailed in late November. This six-month organizational training program entitled the EZ Institute is designed to help small Community and Faith-based organizations build capacity in their organizations. The EZ Institute is scheduled to begin in January 21, 2005.

BCI Board Elections will take place on November 13, 2004, from 10:00AM until 4:00 PM. The candidate for District 5 is Ms. Julia Flashner and the candidate for District 11 is Ms. Roberta Williams.

'Save the Date' cards have been mailed to approximately 300 Community and Faith Based Organizations for BCI's Annual Meeting on January 12, 2005 at the Hampton Inn and Suites. Ms. Carrington suggested that since the Annual Meeting theme is 'Celebrating our Partnerships', we are seeking a keynote speaker who will speak on the value of partnership in delivering services. Ms. Carrington suggested Ms. Marian Heard, former President and CEO of the United Way. Other suggestions from the Board members included Gail Snowden and Ruth Ellen Fitz, new CEO of Dimock Community Health Center. Mr. Joelee Baker-Bey suggested that a younger speaker would be interesting. Mr. Baker-Bey will contact Ms. Carrington with the name of the speaker.

Ms. Carrington reported that hiring for the Program Manager position was moving forward and she hoped to fill the position by mid November.

Technology

Bob Tumposky, Deputy Director for Management Information Systems at the BRA has been very helpful with BCI technology issues.

Ms. Carrington thanked the BCI staff and the Jobs and Community Service staff for the support during this period of staff shortage.

Mr. Maloney congratulated Ms. Carrington for the good job she is doing as Acting Executive Director. He mentioned that the BRA and DND have monthly economic development meetings where reviews of economic development projects throughout the city are discussed. Many of the projects are in the Empowerment Zone. Ms. Carrington has been attending these meetings and is a welcomed addition.

Mr. Maloney raised the issue of the need to resolve the Conflict of Interest issue. He suggested that the Board participate in "Conflict of Interest" training sponsored by the State Ethics Commission. The Mayor would like all of the Boards citywide to get this training. Mr. Maloney will work with Ms. Carrington to schedule the training.



Mr. Greenidge asked members to think about the next Board meeting date. After brief discussion, it was decided the Board would meet on Tuesday November 23, 2004.

At 6:45 PM, staff and guest were dismissed and the Board adjourned to an Executive Session.

A True Record Attest:

Gloria Coney, Clerk

